

AN ACT

relating to the filing of a degree plan by students at public institutions of higher education.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 51.9685, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsection (c-2) and amending Subsection (g) to read as follows:

(c-2) A student enrolled in a course for joint high school and junior college credit under Section 130.008 at a public junior college and to whom Subsection (b) or (c-1) does not apply shall file a degree plan with the college not later than:

(1) the end of the second regular semester or term immediately following the semester or term in which the student earned a cumulative total of 15 or more semester credit hours of course credit for dual credit courses successfully completed by the student; or

(2) if the student begins the student's first semester or term at the college with 15 or more semester credit hours of course credit for dual credit courses successfully completed by the student, the end of the student's second regular semester or term at the college.

(g) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, in consultation with institutions of higher education, shall ~~may~~ adopt rules as necessary for the administration of this section,

1 including rules requiring institutions of higher education to
2 report to the board information regarding the filing of degree
3 plans as required by this section.

4 SECTION 2. Section 130.0104(c), Education Code, is amended
5 to read as follows:

6 (c) In complying with the requirements regarding the filing
7 of a degree plan under [~~Notwithstanding~~] Section 51.9685, [~~before~~
8 ~~the beginning of the regular semester or term immediately following~~
9 ~~the semester or term in which~~] a student enrolled [~~successfully~~
10 ~~completes a cumulative total of 30 or more semester credit hours for~~
11 ~~coursework~~] in a multidisciplinary studies associate degree
12 program established under this section[~~, the student~~] must meet
13 with an academic advisor to complete a degree plan[~~, as defined by~~
14 ~~Section 51.9685(a)(1),~~] that:

15 (1) accounts for all remaining credit hours required
16 for the completion of the degree program; and

17 (2) emphasizes:

18 (A) the student's transition to a particular
19 four-year college or university that the student chooses; and

20 (B) preparations for the student's intended
21 field of study or major at the four-year college or university.

22 SECTION 3. This Act applies beginning with the 2019-2020
23 academic year.

24 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
25 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
26 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
27 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this

1 Act takes effect September 1, 2019.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1324 passed the Senate on April 3, 2019, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1324 passed the House on May 17, 2019, by the following vote: Yeas 136, Nays 4, two present not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

Date

Governor